

CORRES. CONTROL
OUTGOING LTR NO.

EG&G ROCKY FLATS

DOE ORDER# 4200.1

75 RF00240

EG&G ROCKY FLATS, INC.
ROCKY FLATS PLANT, P.O. BOX 464, GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0464 • (303) 966-7000

DIST.	LTR	ENC
MARAL, M.E.		
BURLINGAME, A.H.		
BUSBY, W.S.		
BRANCH, D.B.		
CARNIVAL, G.J.		
DAVIS, J.G.		
FERRERA, D.W.		
FRAY, R.E.		
GEIS, J.A.		
GLOVER, W.S.		
GOLAN, P.M.		
HANNI, B.J.		
HARMAN, L.K.		
HEALY, T.J.		
HEDAH, T.	X	X
HILBIG, J.G.		
HUTCHINS, N.M.		
JACKSON, D.T.		
KELL, R.E.		
QUESTER, A.W.		
MARX, G.E.		
MCDONALD, M.M.		
MCKENNA, F.G.		
MONTROSE, J.K.		
MORGAN, R.V.		
POTTER, G.L.		
PIZZUTO, V.M.		
RISING, T.L.		
SANDLIN, N.B.		
SCHWARTZ, J.K.		
SETLOCK, G.H.		
STEWART, D.L.		
STIGER, S.G.	X	
TOBIN, P.M.		
TOORHEIS, G.M.		
WILSON, J.M.		
Boxle, R.W.	X	X
Beth, S.R.	X	X
Farris, D.R.	X	X
Hallen, J.B.	X	X
Mucci, J.A.	X	X
Quinn, L.	X	X
Hagen, R.	X	X
CORRES. CONTROL	X	X
ADMN RECORD/080	X	X
TRAFFIC		
PATS/T130G		

January 6, 1995

95-RF-00240

Jessie M. Roberson
Assistant Manager for Environmental Restoration
DOE, RFFO

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT (IAG) MILESTONE SOLAR PONDS EMPTIED OF WATER AND SLUDGE WILL BE MISSED - SGS-013-95

We now project that the Operable Unit 4 (OU-4) Interagency Agreement (IAG) milestone to empty the Solar Ponds will be missed. This information has been communicated to your staff during the daily status report meeting. We appreciate your flexibility in allowing us to transmit this notification to you less than the standard thirty days in advance of the milestone's scheduled date.

Further information is attached. For your convenience, the information is presented in the form of a draft letter to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) We are continuing our efforts to empty the last of the impoundments, Pond 207-C, and will keep your staff informed of progress.

If you would like to discuss this further, please call Steve Keith, extension 8541, or me, extension 8540.

S. G. Stiger

S. G. Stiger
Director
Environmental Restoration Program Division

SRK:clh

Attachment:
As Stated

Orig. and 1 cc - J. M. Roberson

CLASSIFICATION: *File X X*

JCNI		
UNCLASSIFIED		
CONFIDENTIAL		
SECRET		

cc:
S. Howard - DOE, RFFO
N. M. Silverman - DOE, RFFO
M. A. Witherill - DOE, RFFO

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DATE

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N REPLY TO RFP CC NO:

ACTION ITEM STATUS
1 PARTIAL/OPEN

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TR APPROVALS:

ORIG & TYPIST INITIALS
clh

RECORDED

DRAFT

Mr. Joe Shieffelin
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division
HMWMD-HWC-B2
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80222-1530

Dear Mr. Shieffelin:

The the U. S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Field Office, has a Interagency Agreement (IAG) milestone due for the RFETS Solar Ponds on January 20, 1995. This letter serves to notify you that we may miss that milestone date.

The milestone in question is "Solar Ponds Emptied of Water and Sludge". We have since corresponded (State letter of January 4, 1995) on the precise definition for the milestone, and DOE concurs with your definition that the liner be visible and identifiable over the full areal extent of the pond bottom. As you noted, Pond 207 A and 207 B-series meet this definition. Pond 207-C is the impoundment in question.

The week of December 20, 1994 the 207 C Pond was essentially empty of all liquids and solids that could be slurried. A four to eight inch layer of hard salt was found covering about half the pond bottom. Previous "salt grinding" operations had failed to crush and mobilize the salt layer all the way to the liner.

The following activities have begun to deal with the salt layer:

- Front end loaders were successfully used to scrape the salt loose.
- Transfer lines were repeatedly plugged by the very thick salt slurry. Redundant transfer lines were installed, but plugging continued to be a problem in the inclement weather.
- Since the salt would not pump adequately without substantial amounts of added water, an alternate removal technique using no added water was developed. Metal containers were placed in the pond, filled directly using the front end loader, and tranfered to the 750 Pad.
- Operations will begin January 7 to mobilize the salt in the containers with water and transfer the slurry into tanks. The tank farm location in tents provides climate control to facilitate the operation.

DOE notes that the hard salt layer is not migrating into soil or ground water. The CDPHE goal to to stem the flow of harmful contaminants into ground water and soil has, therefore, been substanatively achieved. Delay in achieving the final "clean and dry" status does not threaten any subsequent IAG milestone. The latest that DOE must achieve "clean and dry" to support the OU 4 Phase I remediation is July 5, 1995.

We invite your staff to tour the ponds at your convenience. Significant progress has been made towards emptying Pond 207-C. To date, we have transferred 260 truck-loads of sludge to tanks. The final amount of sludge moved to tanks is expected to be about 20% more than originally estimated. Since a day of delay during good weather may

require more than a day to recover during inclement weather, some discussion will be needed to arrive at a mutually agreeable extension request. We will know very soon if the milestone will definitely be missed; at that time, we will contact you to discuss the details of an extension.

If you would like to discuss this further or arrange a tour, please contact Frazer lockhart, 966-7846.